



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2004
Committee Statement
LB 1197

Hearing Date: February 12, 2004

Committee On: Revenue

Introducer(s): (Synowiecki)

Title: Create a fund for tourism development and fund it with certain sales tax revenue

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

5 Yes Senators Baker, Janssen, Landis, Raikes and Redfield

0 No

1 Present, not voting Senator Hartnett

2 Absent Senators Bourne and Connealy

Proponents:

Senator John Synowiecki

Jeff Hilt

Jeff Bailey

Lora Young

Charles (Sonny) Mares

Jim Otto

Rich Otto

Natalie Peetz

Representing:

Introducer

Nebraska Hotel and Motel Association,
Marriott Corporation, Omaha

Crowne Plaza Hotel,
Intercontinental Hotels Group

Nebraska Travel Association

Greater Omaha Convention & Visitors Bureau

Nebraska Restaurant Association

Nebraska Retail Federation

Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce

Opponents:

None

Representing:

Neutral:

None

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1197 would have created the Tourism Supplemental Revenue Fund to 1) increase tourism promotion in the state, and 2) provide matching grants to area or regional promotion groups. The fund was to be divided equally for each purpose. The grants were to be dollar for dollar,

meaning at least 50 percent local. The grants were to be for advertising and other means of promoting tourism and luring visitors to Nebraska. No money in the fund was to pay for constructing facilities or for any overhead, including salaries.

The State Treasurer was to annually transfer an amount from the General Fund into the Tourism Supplemental Revenue Fund. The amount was to be equal to half the amount of any sales tax increase from tourism sales from the previous fiscal year to the one prior to that that was greater than 3 percent. Tourism sales tax revenue was to be defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) categories of 1) Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, 2) Accommodation and food service, 3) Scenic and Sightseeing Transportation, and 4) Travel arrangement and reservation. The Travel and Tourism Division was to annually provide a report to the Appropriations and Government Committees detailing a promotional marketing strategy.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator David Landis, Chairperson